

10/578787
JAN 3 2006

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Michael Neumann et al

Application Number: Unassigned

Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Title: REFRIGERATION DEVICE WITH IMPROVED
CONDENSED WATER ELIMINATION

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98, I am submitting a completed "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" (*Form PTO/SB/08A*) with patents and/or publications as delineated therein attached.

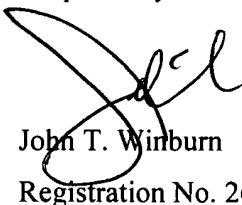
JP 2003-202179 discloses an invention to drain water generated from a cooler of the freezing and refrigerating device of the show case is atomized with an ultrasonic oscillator and atomized water is blown out right before the radiator of the freezing and refrigerating device to cool the radiator and evaporate atomized water with heat thereof for completely evaporated the same. Since just blowing out atomized water causes re-condensation, leak and contamination by unwanted bacteria, a storage tank and an atomization tank are separated and conditions to avoid reproduction of unwanted bacterial as much as possible and to perform efficient atomization are maintained, and atomized water is supplied when the radiator is under a high temperature condition.

JP 7-225874 discloses that to prevent the dust from accumulating on a piezoelectric vibrator and to omit the maintenance for this purpose by placing the vibrator as an atomizer means at a sloping part of the bottom part of a waste fluid saucer. CONSTITUTION: An automatic vending machine contains a saucer 7 which collects and accumulates the water and other waste fluid that are condensed into the dew by an evaporator 35 placed at a commodity cooling part by a drain pipe 33, a fluid surface detecting device 26 which detects the quantity of the waste fluid accumulated in the saucer 7, and an atomizer means control circuit 27. A sloping part is formed at the bottom part of the saucer 7 and a piezoelectric vibrator 1 is

provided on the sloping part with a tilt secured to the fluid surface. Thus the dust, etc., mixed into the waste fluid 10 are not easily accumulated on the vibrator 1 and the deposited matters 9 of large specific gravity are accumulated at the bottom of the saucer 7 owing to a fact that the vibrator 1 is tilted at a position higher than the bottom of the saucer 7.

If no translation of pertinent portions of any foreign language patents or publications mentioned within the "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" is included with the aforementioned copies of those applications, patents and/or publications, it is because no existing translation is readily available to the Applicants. As per the Notice in 1273 OG 55 (August 5, 2003) no copies of any above-mentioned US patents and US patent application publications are submitted for this application which was filed after June 30, 2003.

Respectfully submitted



John T. Winburn
Registration No. 26,822

May 8, 2006

BSH Home Appliances Corp.
100 Bosch Blvd
New Bern, NC 28562
Phone: 252-636-4397
Fax: 714-845-2807
john.winburn@bshg.com

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number

Unassigned

Filing Date

Herewith

First Named Inventor

Michael Neumann et al.

Art Unit

Examiner Name

11. *What is the best way to increase the number of people who use a particular service?*

Set Number 2003P01684WOUS

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)		
		JP 2003-202179	07/18/2003	OTSUBO MASASHI
		JP 7-225874	08/22/1995	TAKAHASHI MASATO
		International Search Report PCT/EP2004/052938		✓

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. **¹**Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). **²**See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. **³**Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). **⁴**For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. **⁵**Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. **⁶**Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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